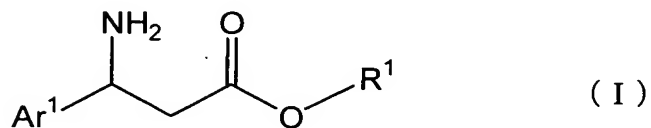


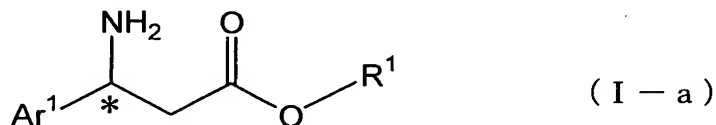
Claims

1. An n-alkyl 3-amino-3-arylpropionate represented by the formula (I):



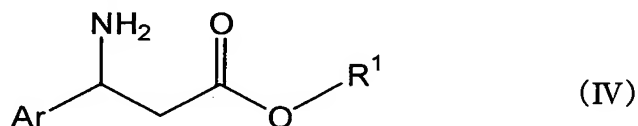
wherein Ar^1 represents an aryl group which may have a substituent(s), provided that a phenyl group and 4-methoxyphenyl group are excluded, R^1 represents an n-propyl group or an n-butyl group.

2. An (R or S)-n-alkyl 3-amino-3-arylpropionate represented by the formula (I-a):



wherein Ar^1 and R^1 have the same meanings as defined in Claim 1, and * represents an asymmetric carbon.

3. A process for preparing an n-alkyl 3-amino-3-arylpropionate represented by the formula (IV):



wherein R^1 represents an n-propyl group or an n-butyl group, and Ar represents an aryl group which may have a substituent(s), provided that a phenyl group is excluded,

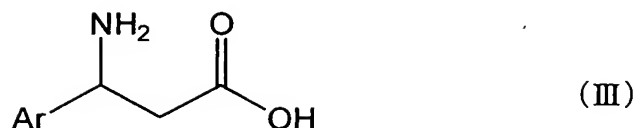
which comprises

(A) a first step of reacting an arylaldehyde represented by the formula (II):



wherein Ar has the same meaning as defined above, and malonic acid and ammonium acetate in an organic solvent to make a 3-amino-3-arylpropionic acid represented by the

formula (III):



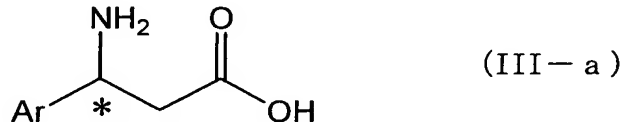
wherein Ar has the same meaning as defined above,

(B) then, a second step for reacting the resulting compound with a 3-amino-3-arylpropionic acid and n-propyl alcohol or n-butyl alcohol in the presence of an acid catalyst.

4. The process for preparing an n-alkyl 3-amino-3-arylpropionate according to Claim 3, wherein the organic solvent is an alcohol solvent.

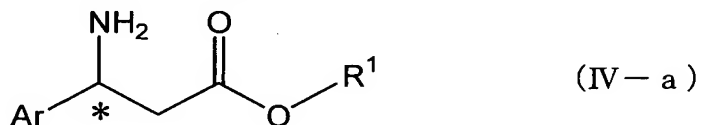
5. The process for preparing an n-alkyl 3-amino-3-arylpropionate according to Claim 4, wherein the alcohol solvent is ethanol or isopropyl alcohol.

6. A process for preparing an optically active (S or R)-3-amino-3-arylpropionic acid represented by the formula (III-a):



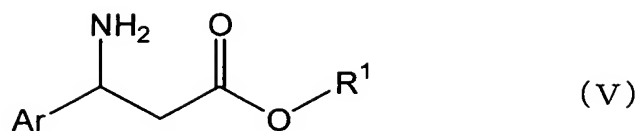
wherein Ar represents an aryl group which may have a substituent(s), and * represents an asymmetric carbon,

and an optically active (R or S)-n-alkyl 3-amino-3-arylpropionate represented by the formula (IV-a):



wherein Ar and * have the same meanings as defined above, and R¹ represents an n-propyl group or an n-butyl group, provided that it has a reverse absolute configuration to that of the compound of the formula (III-a),

which comprises subjecting either one of enantiomers of n-alkyl 3-amino-3-arylpropionate which is racemic mixtures and represented by the formula (IV):



wherein Ar and R¹ have the same meanings as defined above,

to selectively hydrolysis reaction in the presence of a hydrolase in a mixed solvent of an organic solvent and a buffer.

7. The process according to Claim 6, wherein the hydrolase is protease, esterase or lipase.

8. The process according to Claim 6 or 7, wherein the hydrolase is lipase originated from *Burkholderia cepacia* (*Pseudomonas cepacia*).

9. The process according to Claim 6, wherein the organic solvent is an aliphatic hydrocarbon, an aromatic hydrocarbon or an ether, or a mixed solvent of the above.

10. The process according to Claim 6, wherein the organic solvent is cyclohexane, t-butyl methyl ether or toluene.

11. The process according to any one of Claims 6 to 10, wherein the buffer is at least one selected from the group consisting of an aqueous sodium phosphate solution, an aqueous potassium phosphate solution, an aqueous sodium acetate solution, an aqueous sodium citrate solution and an aqueous ammonium acetate solution.

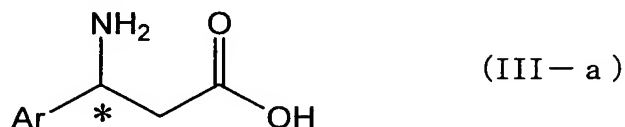
12. The process according to any one of Claims 6 to 10, wherein the buffer is at least one selected from the group consisting of an aqueous sodium phosphate solution and an aqueous potassium phosphate solution.

13. The process according to Claim 11 or 12, wherein a concentration of the buffer is 0.05 to 0.5 mol/L.

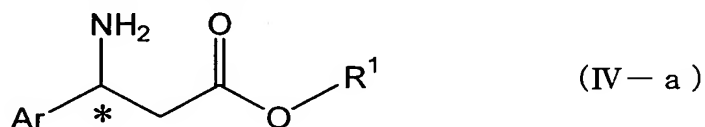
14. The process according to any one of Claims 6 to 13, wherein the hydrolysis reaction is carried out at 10 to 50°C.

15. The process according to any one of Claims 6 to 13, wherein the hydrolysis reaction is carried out at 30 to 45°C.

16. The process according to Claim 6, wherein each of the optically active (S or R)-3-amino-3-arylpropionic acid represented by the formula (III-a):



5 wherein Ar has the same meaning as defined above,
 and * represents an asymmetric carbon,
 and the optically active (R or S)-n-alkyl 3-amino-3-arylpropionate represented by the formula (IV-a):



10 wherein Ar and R¹ have the same meanings as defined
 above, * represents an asymmetric carbon, provided
 that it has a reverse absolute configuration to the
 compound of the formula (III-a),
 formed by the hydrolysis reaction is isolated from the
 15 mixture thereof.

17. The process according to Claim 6 or 16, wherein Ar is
 a phenyl group, 2-tolyl group, 3-tolyl group, 4-tolyl
 group, 2,3-xylyl group, 2-chlorophenyl group, 3-chloro-
 phenyl group, 4-chlorophenyl group, 2,3-dichlorophenyl
 20 group, 2,4-dichlorophenyl group, 3,4-dichlorophenyl group,
 3,5-dichlorophenyl group, 2-bromophenyl group, 3-bromo-
 phenyl group, 4-bromophenyl group, 2-fluorophenyl group, 3-
 fluorophenyl group, 4-fluorophenyl group, 3,4-difluoro-
 phenyl group, 2-iodophenyl group, 3-iodophenyl group, 4-
 25 iodophenyl group, 2-methoxyphenyl group, 3-methoxyphenyl
 group, 4-methoxyphenyl group, 2,3-dimethoxyphenyl group,
 3,4-dimethoxyphenyl group, 3,5-dimethoxyphenyl group or
 3,4-methylenedioxyphenyl group.